



AMENDMENT

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Method A method for the determination of determining the concentration of latent phospholipid hydroperoxide glutathione peroxidase (PHGPx) in a sperm sample, comprising the steps of:~~
 - a. obtaining ~~a~~ the sperm sample,
 - b. solubilizing ~~the~~ spermatozoa in said sperm sample by adding detergents and chaotropic agents; and
 - c. reactivating latent PHGPx by adding thiols;
 - d. removing the chaotropic agents and ~~reactivating~~ thiols from the sample; and,
 - e. determining the ~~content~~ concentration of the ~~solubilized~~ latent PHGPx.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~removal~~ of the chaotropic agents and ~~reactivating~~ thiols ~~is performed~~ are removed by gel filtration.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~content~~ concentration of solubilized PHGPx is determined by conventional immunological techniques or measurement of enzymatic activity of said solubilized PHGPx.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the chaotropic agent is 4 – 8 M guanidine chloride, 4 – 8 M guanidine thiocyanate or 5 – 8 M urea.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the thiol is 50 – 300 mM 2-mercaptoethanol, 25 – 300 mM dithiothreitol (DTT) or dithioerythritol (DTE).
7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the sperm sample is from humans or livestock.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method of claim 1, wherein the content of solubilized PHGPx predicts the fertilizing potential of spermatozoa in sperm samples~~ The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating fertilizing potential of said spermatozoa by using the concentration of latent PHGPx.